



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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**U.S. National Security Advisor Lake Visits
Rwanda, Burundi**

*LD1505181496 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 15 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] In a surprise move, U.S. President Bill Clinton decided to send one of his closest advisers to the Great Lakes region. After having spent several hours in Burundi, Anthony Lake visited Rwanda. He said he was very impressed by the progress made by Kigali in the last year and a half, but he recognized that problems remained to be overcome. One of these problems, noted the American official, involved in particular the fate of refugees settled in Zaire, whether they were from Rwanda or Burundi. The issue was at the center of this morning's meetings between Anthony Lake and the authorities in Bujumbura. Christian Billmann reports:

[Billmann] The United States has made it clear that they do not want to hear anymore talk of a new UN force in Burundi. This is the reason why Anthony Lake, President Clinton's foreign affairs advisor [as heard], is visiting Bujumbura to explain that Burundi's problems must be resolved by the Burundi people themselves. In

straightforward talks, he explained that U.S. aid would not resume until the country returned to peace. This aid reached a level of \$100 million in the last two years.

The White House is evidently very concerned with the way events have developed in Burundi and does not want it to become a new Rwanda. Bill Clinton could well do without such an ordeal in the middle of the election year. Bosnia and the Middle East are enough worries. For this reason he unexpectedly sent his adviser to the region.

According to a White House spokesperson, Anthony Lake's mission is to encourage all parties in Burundi to bring an end to the killing and talk.

With this measure, the Americans hope to reinforce Julius Nyerere's mediation between the Tutsis and the Hutus. They are also pinning hope on a French initiative, which explains why Anthony Lake stopped off in Paris, where, last Saturday [11 May], he met Jean-David Levitte, President Chirac's foreign affairs adviser, at the Elysee palace.

Burundi

Burundi: President Concerned About Security Officials' Actions

EA1605162096 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] In view of the (?worrying) insecurity and believing that the security forces have failed to secure the people, the president of the Republic, Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, has met security officials. The president of the Republic expressed his concern:

[Begin Ntibantunganya Recording] There have been many unacceptable assassinations of senior political, administrative, and military officials. You have told me yourselves that you have initiated investigations. We are impatiently waiting for the outcome. [Words indistinct] many interpretations which hardly serve peace and security.

You can see for yourselves: Burundi has become a center of (?death). Why? Because your services are paralyzed and inoperative. They therefore cannot assist us in reassuring public opinion. Gangs of killers have been formed and are operating unhindered in the capital as well as in the country's interior. They are able to move about freely, which is surprising at a time when we are in a country in which a pass is demanded to move from one province to another and where a curfew has been imposed from 2100. [Words indistinct] how can it be that the criminals are able to move like fish in water and pass through the holes in your nets? Either you are incompetent or you are accomplices. [end recording]

For President Ntibantunganya, security in a country starts with prevention followed by dissuasion and repression. Not one of these levels function satisfactorily today. Here he is:

[Begin Ntibantunganya recording] The various services working in intelligence are currently good in making reports in which they deplore deaths, arson, looting, and destruction. Intelligence serving to protect and prevent the loss of human lives is rare. But taking into account the financial means allocated to the security services under this year's budget, one can see that the security services are important.

Dissuasion does not exist. Routine controls which are imposed even in times of peace have become free fare. Even when they are imposed they are imposed on one side as if the evil befalling our country emanates just from that side, as opposed to the other. The state must be ubiquitous at the security level. [Words indistinct] criminals and wrongdoers must feel its presence and fear it.

Nothing like that exists in Burundi today. Our investigation services, which should facilitate operations of repression, particularly in their judicial form, are disconcertingly incompetent and lacking in determination. How can it be that of the numerous assassination cases not a single one has been declared finalized by the political authority? Do you think that this is a normal situation?

Enough is enough. We must move [words indistinct]. Things are going to change from now on. Burundians demand better protection from you and us. As the upper echelons of the state, we can no longer tolerate inaction. We give you one week — even that is too much — to organize yourselves or reorganize yourselves sufficiently to give us at least some clues to facilitate the arrest of all those within the system or within the country organizing and executing the terrorism which is (?weakening) the people fighting the simplistic fundamentalists trying to destroy our nation. The times are perilous and every individual must discharge his responsibilities. [end recording]

Burundi: 'Death Squad Members' Reportedly Kill Four 15 May

EA1605162596 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The commune of Kiganda was attacked by death squad members yesterday. According to well-informed sources, the criminals arrived from Rutegama commune at about 0100, passed over Kivumu Hill and went to the small trading center of Gitabo, where they looted beer from two shops and demolished the (COPEC), the Gitabo Cooperative Office, before killing four people. Security forces intervened very rapidly and controlled the mayhem.

South Africa: Mandela Says 'Regrettable' National Party Left Government

*MB1605134496 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1334 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GRAHAMSTOWN May 16 SAPA — It was regrettable the National Party [NP] had pulled out of the government at a time when unity was being built in the country, President Nelson Mandela said on Thursday.

Speaking in Grahamstown, he said he agreed with newspapers that had said the NP could not play the role of opposition as it was "outstripped and superceded" by the Democratic Party [DP]. Mandela said the DP, led by a "sharp-tongued" Tony Leon had long kept the African National Congress "on its toes."

"We don't fear opposition because democracy works well with a vigorous opposition," Mandela said. "However it is regrettable that at a time when we are building unity, the National Party walks out of government."

He praised former justice minister Kobie Coetsee and Energy and Mineral Affairs Minister Pik Botha for the part they had played in the negotiations which led to the creation of a democratic country. "Botha did not agree with the decision to pull out. He is a man of courage and principle."

Mandela also appealed to whites not to leave the country. "I appeal to you not to betray your country. Streams of people are leaving with skills which are critical, leaving us deprived of talent." He said no minority needed to feel threatened as long as the ANC was in power.

Mandela was speaking at the opening and rededication ceremony at the 1820 Settlers' Monument Building that was partially destroyed by a fire two years ago. The building, which is the main performance venue during the annual arts festival, was rebuilt at a cost of R30 million [rands].

South Africa: ANC To Pursue Program More Vigorously Without NP

*MB1505202396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2002 GMT 15 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG May 15 SAPA — The government would pursue the programme it was elected to implement with greater vigour unencumbered by the party that gave birth to apartheid, the African National Congress said on Wednesday.

It was commenting on the National Party's [NP] announcement that the NP would be withdrawing from most provincial governments. The ANC said in a state-

ment that no party or government had such a monopoly on wisdom that it could not benefit from the critical scrutiny of a loyal opposition.

"The pluralism of our country's population has been a cornerstone of ANC policy for many decades.

"It was precisely the NP's disregard for such realities that distinguished us from them."

The ANC would, "in the spirit of nation-building and in recognition of the ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity of our society", continue to foster co-operation in the interests of all South Africans, the statement said. The ANC said it remained hopeful that the NP would play its requisite role as a loyal opposition to ensure the realisation of national goals.

The mission of the ANC in government at both national and provincial level remained unchanged. The partnership among government, the trade unions, business and other sections of civil society would also not be affected by the NP's decision to pursue a different course. "We would expect the NP, together with other parties in the opposition, to define its role in the context of the responsibilities all parties must assume to attain these objectives."

The ANC said it would neither shirk the cut and thrust of parliamentary and extra-parliamentary debate, nor be "deflected from our route by the siren songs of the opposition".

"The government remains on course and will pursue the programme it was elected to implement with even greater vigour, unencumbered by the sensibilities of the party that gave birth to apartheid."

South Africa: COSATU Says NP 'Obstacle' to Change in Government

*MB1605133196 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1303 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG May 16 SAPA — Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] General Secretary Sam Shilowa on Thursday said the National Party [NP] had been an obstacle to change in the government of national unity [GNU].

Shilowa told the national congress of the Transport and General Workers' Union the NP was "walking out in order to come back and engage us politically and...on the ground, oppose every move of the African National Congress.

"We can all rejoice that they have been an obstacle to change," he said, adding the ANC/Cosatu/SACP [South African Communist Party] alliance should close ranks.

"The pullout of the National Party means we have to forge more unity of purpose. That's the challenge that we are facing."

ANC secretary general Cheryl Carolus said the NP, which pulled out of the GNU a day after the final constitution was adopted, was retreating into a laager [bunker] mentality. The Government's achievements in the past two years had been remarkable, she said, but many detractors maintained nothing had changed. "The struggle for freedom is not over yet, by a long shot," she said. The ANC would proceed with its policies although the NP would try to obstruct change.

"If there are any decent people, the time to part with the NP is now," Carolus said. She made the remark a day after Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister and veteran politician Pik Botha announced he was quitting politics.

Labour Minister Tito Mboweni told the three-day congress the National Party had not contributed to economic policy. "Nothing could be further from the truth...there was very little that they could contribute." He said South Africa was faced with great challenges that required solidarity among the alliance partners.

"The victories we have scored have come about as a result of unity of purpose, which the democratic movement showed. Without the presence of our alliance in our work, we are likely to fail in this country," he said. "We are called upon to close ranks and face the challenges ahead of us," he added, recalling the cohesion of the alliance on controversial clauses which Cosatu opposed for inclusion in the final constitution adopted on May 8.

"As the ANC government we have to ensure we rebuild the structures of government to deliver services to our people...the whole government system needs to be put on a better footing."

South Africa: CP Says NP Withdrawal From Government To Split Party

MB1505120196 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1043 GMT 15 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg May 15 SAPA — The National Party [NP] leadership would eventually split following its withdrawal from the Government of National Unity. Conservative Party [CP] leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg said on Wednesday.

The NP's withdrawal at national level and from eight provinces vindicated the CP's attitude that power sharing was not workable, he said in a statement.

With the NP split, some members would join the African National Congress, others would retire from politics and

another group would remain in parliament to continue enjoying the "benefits of the gravy train". He said the NP had from a position of power negotiated away "everything to a position of total subordination."

Nothing had been gained in the negotiations and "Afrikaners and other nations have been immersed in a unitary state that makes no provision for the internationally recognised right of peoples to be free."

Hartzenberg said the NP would never be an effective opposition for an ANC government as it had produced no viable alternative policy. "The only remaining solution offering peace and prosperity for South Africa and all its people was the recognition of the right to self determination of nations within a confederal structure. The division currently within Afrikaner circles will be reduced when the real dividing line was drawn between those who supported the new dispensation and those who believed in the right of self-determination of nations," he said.

South Africa: ANC Premier Urges Government To 'Fire' All NP Appointees

MB1605113096 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 16 May 96 p 8

[Report by Mzimasi Ngudle]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MPUMALANGA Premier Mathews Phosa says it was not enough for the National Party [NP] to pull out from the national and the eight provincial governments.

In an interview with SOWETAN, Phosa said the Government should immediately scan, identify and fire all NP political appointees to national and provincial administrations which were made in the spirit of national unity and reconciliation.

Phosa said he would soon start scanning his provincial administration and fire all NP political appointees.

He said the idea of the GNU [government of national unity] came in the context of effecting a balance of political forces and the creation of confidence across the political spectrum. "We needed to take a step forward in a manner which would not shock the economy. In all democracies, appointments are done by the ruling party. That must be addressed as a fundamental question of transformation at national and provincial levels.

"There are also NP members who are chairpersons of standing committees because of that principle of national unity. They must go out," Phosa said.

"Now that the NP has pulled out, the principles underlying the formation of the Government of National Unity are no longer existent," he said.

While welcoming the pull-out as a positive and necessary beginning of a real and genuine democracy, Phosa said the ANC-led government would be hamstrung if the administration was controlled by NP. "We need to do a proper scan of the administration and identify appointments made in the spirit of the GNU.

"If there are people who were appointed politically, they must go. We can't have a legislature and an executive that is ANC and the administration which is NP," he said.

"The spirit of national unity permeated down to the provinces. When the head goes, so must the tail. The NP appointees must get out. We also still want to reflect more on Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal. There must be an ANC government in its pristine form which will govern effectively.

"Its policies must be implemented fast by a willing executive, a willing legislature and a willing administration. The NP should not be an opposition and control administration at the same time," he said.

In effect, Phosa wanted the NP politicians and officials removed from all tiers of government — legislative, executive and administrative.

South Africa: NP Criticizes ANC's 'Veiled Threat' To Fire NP Officials

*MB1605183796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1803 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG May 16 SAPA — The African National Congress' veiled threat to fire National Party [NP] officials from provincial administrations would create uncertainty, disillusionment and break down morale, NP leader in the Gauteng legislature Olaus van Zyl said on Thursday.

He was reacting to a report in a Johannesburg newspaper which quotes Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa as saying the ANC government should "immediately scan, identify and fire all NP political appointees to national and provincial administrations".

"The National Party is disturbed by what appears to be the bad faith of the ANC around the issue of security for civil servants," van Zyl said in a statement. "Their veiled threat to fire so-called NP officials from provincial administrations... goes completely outside of the spirit of constitutional negotiations."

He said unlike the ANC, the NP believed in an apolitical, professional and unpartisan civil service. He said if the ANC dismissed civil servants, it would be "only to make way for their own ilk". He said if the threat was carried out it would be the height of a "jobs

for pals campaign which is flourishing in government circles".

The South African civil service was considered in international circles to be extremely professional and competent, van Zyl said. "If the ANC wants to destroy this they must continue along this route. It is sure to deliver disastrous results for the country."

He said the ANC's argument that one could not have an ANC government with NP officials carried as strongly one against an ANC government with ANC officials. Officials should be loyal to the public they serve, not to political parties. "In civilised democracies officials don't change when governments change. Officials are beyond politics, they are servants of the public at large regardless of whom the public supports."

NP media and information director Dr Johan Steenkamp said Phosa's threat "again illustrates the ANC's tunnel vision".

"It also vindicates the NP's decision to leave the government of national unity, as something which has become an empty shell," Steenkamp said in a statement. He said Phosa's view also gave notice to the Inkatha Freedom Party that it was participating in government "on borrowed time".

"The ANC pretends to be the protector of individual rights, political freedom and job security. South Africans must, however, take note of Mr Phosa's sentiments: you are entitled to these rights for only as long as the ANC says so.

"Mr Phosa, and the likes of him in the ANC, claims to have liberated South Africans. Mr Phosa's utterances, however, illustrate the poor quality of these liberties."

South Africa: Survey Finds 70 Percent Support Traditional Leaders' Role

*MB1405153196 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1444 GMT 14 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG May 14 SAPA — Nearly 70 percent of South Africans regard the role of traditional leaders as important, according to a survey conducted by Market Research Africa [MRA] for a Johannesburg daily released on Tuesday.

MRA managing director Hanna Fourie said in a statement that while the majority of all races were supportive of traditional leaders' roles, six in 10 blacks also felt the leaders should serve in local government. "Whites, Coloureds and Indians are less certain they should play this kind of political role, but even so, support for the idea hovers around the 40 percent mark."

The statement said MRA's investigation, involving 3,320 households, was designed to represent 92 percent of all adults 16 years or over in South Africa, with the principal exclusions being rural whites and Coloureds, mineworkers in hostels and live-in domestics.

Asked how they felt about the role of traditional leaders, the most frequent response by black adults was also the most positive with 25 percent saying it was "extremely important", 22 percent regarded it as "very important" and a further 22 percent saying it was "fairly important". The Nguni language group (Zulu, Xhosa, Swazi and Ndebele) was less emphatic about this than the Sotho and other language groups (Sepedi, Sesotho, Tswana, Tsonga and Venda), though the overall "important" scores were the same at 69 percent, the statement said.

"In KwaZulu-Natal, where the role of traditional leaders has become contentious, the belief that they are important is one of the highest, at 74 percent," Fourie said. "However, the desire to see them in local politics is no more than average (55 percent)."

Province by province, those in the north have the highest regard for their traditional leaders, according to the survey. In the North West/Northern Cape 36 percent rate them "extremely important" and Northern Province/Mpumalanga the proportion was 33 percent. This contrasted with Western Cape at 10 percent and Free State at nine percent. The figures even out considerably if "extremely", "very", and "fairly important" ratings are added together.

The North West/Northern Cape area then led with 78 percent, followed by KwaZulu-Natal. Free State trailed with 44 percent, the statement said. The remaining five provinces "bunched" between 63 and 70 percent.

"Among other interesting aspects of the research are our findings that at least 30 percent of urban adults acknowledge a traditional leader, while at least 23 percent — perhaps as many as 30 percent — of rural blacks do not," Fourie said. "This research provides additional confirmation that our democracy will not move forward by simply imposing Western models of government onto South Africa. A sensitive blending of traditional customs with contemporary concepts is far more likely to produce governance in which all have confidence and a society in which all are comfortable."

South Africa: Mandela's Bodyguards Charged With Murder, Drug Possession

*MB1705091196 London BBC World Service
in English 0600 GMT 17 May 96*

[From the "Network Africa" program presented by Rick Wells]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Wells] Members of South Africa's parliament expressed shock and outrage yesterday when the police minister, Sydney Mufamadi, admitted that officers of President Mandela's elite bodyguard unit have been accused of crimes ranging from murder to drug possession. Well, on the line to Johannesburg is our reporter Carolyn Dempster. Good morning Carolyn.

[Dempster] Good morning, Rick.

[Wells] Can you tell me what is all this about?

[Dempster] Well, it actually emerged in the senate in response to a question by the Democratic Party's John Self and the deputy safety and security minister, John Matthews, in fact revealed that 19 members of the VIP protection unit, which is this elite guard which is appointed to look after the interests of the politicians and their security, 19 members had been arrested last year in connection with a variety of criminal offenses, including murder and assault, and possession of drugs. Fourteen of those people had in fact been charged and so far seven have been convicted and so the response was fairly outraged and had it not been for this question being put it is doubtful it would have emerged at all.

[Wells] Nineteen members of the unit arrested, 14 charged, can you give us an idea of the proportion of the unit?

[Dempster] Unfortunately, I do not know. I don't know exactly how big the unit is. Obviously President Nelson has his own elite guard and then there is a much bigger protection unit that would be used to guard visiting heads of state and dignitaries, so it is probably quite variable.

[Wells] So, obviously it has caused considerable shock in parliament. What is likely to happen now?

[Dempster] Well, it caused shock in parliament but it doesn't appear as if the media has picked up on it, or it is taking particular notice of it. In fact, the story is running rather second to the story about turmoil on tertiary education campuses around the country. But there is an interesting little side piece that in fact one of President Mandela's guards at his Houghton home, a National Protection Service employee, in fact appeared in the regional court in Johannesburg yesterday charged with theft. He stole goods to the value of 6,000 rand from the

guest cottage in the president's property because he was bored in his job and he felt that his frustrations weren't being properly addressed, so he walked off with goods like crockery, linen, hi-fi sets, and speakers between September and November last year. This all emerged in court. One just wonders to what extent these men and women are properly screened before they get jobs with the protection unit. [end recording]

South Africa: ANC To Vacate Shell House Headquarters 'Within Two Months'

MB1605113296 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
16 May 96 p 5

[Report by Mondli Makhanya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ANC is set to vacate its Shell House headquarters within two months and move to other premises in the Johannesburg city centre.

ANC head office employees say they have been informed that they will be moving to new offices in July or August but no one has been forthcoming about where the new headquarters will be.

The party has apparently considered offices in Braamfontein and the Johannesburg CBD [central business district], but has not yet found suitable premises.

ANC official Lucky Mabasa said the organisation "wanted to move as early as yesterday" and had been considering accommodation in the CBD. He said the Shell House head office had become too big for the ANC.

The ANC wants to sell the building.

South Africa: Job Creation Tops Talks Between Mandela, Nujoma

MB1305124396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1226 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 13 SAPA — A Namibian gas project aimed at providing jobs for Namibians and South Africans topped talks between President Nelson Mandela and his Namibian counterpart President Sam Nujoma on Monday.

Nujoma, who has often visited South Africa in the past, arrived in Cape Town on Monday morning for his first state visit to the country. Both countries had now entered a second phase of struggle to ensure the economic empowerment of its people, he said after talks with President Mandela at Tuynhuys.

On bilateral relations President Mandela said he and President Nujoma had discussed "a project we believe is very important for economic development" and would provide employment for Namibians and South Africans.

The president was referring to Namibia's Kudu Gas Project, which Pres Nujoma said "could be exploited by all of us to provide employment for all our people". Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha and his Namibian counterpart Andimba Toivo ya Toivo held separate talks to discuss the project further.

Other projects aimed at increasing the living standards of Namibians and South Africans were also in the pipeline, President Mandela said.

The ruling parties ANC and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] had fought the battle for liberation together and "we are now facing the problem of reconstruction and development together", he said.

Nujoma also urged South Africa business to invest in Namibia, so that "together we can combat poverty and ensure the upliftment of our people".

Other issues they discussed included the Southern African Development Community, Liberia and President Mandela's possible meeting with Nigerian military ruler Sani Abacha to end increasing human rights violations in that country.

President Mandela who was awarded Namibia's highest honour, the Welwitchia Award, during a state visit last year reciprocated by conferring the Order of the Good Hope on Nujoma on Monday.

Although the Namibian flag was hung upside down at the decoration ceremony, neither Nujoma or his six-member ministerial entourage appeared to notice.

Nujoma said he believed the honour was not only a token of friendship but was also a "recognition of collective [as heard] to the eradication of apartheid", which paved the way for a new non-racial and democratic Southern Africa.

Nujoma, whose state visit to South Africa earlier this year was postponed because President Mandela had to undergo a full medical check-up, was met at Cape Town International Airport by the President and Defence Minister Joe Modise. He was greeted by a 21-gun salute and a guard of honour.

South Africa: Namibian President Calls First State Visit 'Fruitful'

MB1605145296 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1413 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG 16 May SAPA — Namibian State President Sam Nujoma on Thursday described his first state visit to South Africa as fruitful.

Speaking at a press conference at the close of his visit, Nujoma welcomed the growing economic and commercial ties between South Africa and Namibia. He said both governments had pledged to ensure that such co-operation was of mutual benefit to the people of their countries.

Both countries had reached agreement on a number of joint projects. These included development of the Kudu Gas Field off the coast of Namibia, which Nujoma said "would certainly provide jobs for all our people" and an agreement between Eskom (Electricity Supply Commission) and its Namibian counterpart NAMPOWER to bring energy to the Namibian people.

Nujoma urged business in South Africa to play a part in cross-country investment, saying it was sure to benefit both parties. South Africa and Namibia are to develop closer co-operation in the field of higher education. "Our respective ministers of education are establishing a joint task force to explore ways in which South Africa could assist Namibia in meeting the challenges of tertiary education," said Nujoma.

Other issues discussed during his four day visit was President Nelson Mandela's possible meeting with Nigerian military ruler Sani Abacha, to discuss human rights violations in that country, and their confidence in the capacity of the Southern African Development Community to promote common values and prosperity in the region.

On Thursday morning Nujoma laid a wreath on the grave of former President of the African National Congress, Oliver Tambo, who he described as a friend and an African leader who made an enormous contribution to African liberty. "It was a sign of recognition of his long bitter struggle for the liberation of our people," he said.

South Africa: Foreign Minister Explains Return of Envoy to Nigeria

*MB1605150596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1453 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SENATE May 16 SAPA — Channels of communication with Nigeria had to be kept open and for this reason South Africa had returned its High Commissioner to Lagos, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said on Thursday.

"South Africa is pursuing its policy on Nigeria in connection with the South African Development Community, the OAU, the UN and the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group," Nzo said during debate on the Foreign Affairs budget. No other country had taken as

many high-level initiatives as South Africa to restore democracy in Nigeria.

South Africa had established diplomatic relations with 165 states around the world, leaving only 27 countries with which there were no formal relations. South Africa's future relations with the People's Republic of China and with Taiwan would be influenced by talks to be held when he visited Taipei next month and talks held earlier this year in Beijing.

A rationalization process within the Department had been completed, and alternative posts had been found for 62 staff members, he said. Another 49 people were in the process of being transferred. Redundancies had not only affected staff members working in the former TBVC (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei) states, Nzo said. Of the 223 officials made redundant only 119 were from the TBVC states.

The department, in line with a Cabinet decision, was continuing to review its overseas representation and this would take a few months to complete.

South Africa: Whites Said 'Still Running the Show' at Embassies Abroad

*MB1605112996 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
16 May 96 p 2*

[Report by Rafiq Rohan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] More than 86 percent of all staff at South African foreign missions are white and many of the missions are still staffed solely by whites, an official document in possession of SOWETAN reveals.

While visible change has occurred within the country, this change is hardly visible in South African missions abroad and now an angry Portfolio Committee member on Foreign Affairs, Mr Cas Saloojee, is demanding to know why.

"Our democracy is already more than two years old yet we have this scandalous position of whites still running the show at embassies abroad," Saloojee told SOWETAN yesterday.

Another committee member, Dr Rob Davies, told the committee at a meeting yesterday that 86.5 percent of all staff at South African foreign missions were white.

Now the committee is demanding from the Department of Foreign Affairs a detailed explanation on why the racial anomaly continues to exist, a review on financial expenditure whether the embassies are a value for money, and a general performance audit.

The document that SOWETAN is in possession of gives a breakdown of staffing at the embassies. Not only are the missions in Europe and the Americas staffed mainly by whites only, the same applies at missions throughout Africa.

In Dakar, Accra, Kinshasa, Libreville, Nairobi, Mauritius and Windhoek, the entire staff is white.

Throughout the world where the missions are located, at none of them do black people outnumber whites. In fact, out of the entire 549-strong staff, only 74 are black while 475 are white.

The largest staff numbers are in the United States at different centres that also include the United Nations.

Davies revealed that some R27 million [rands] was being spent on personnel in London alone, "ten times more than anything in Africa".

South Africa: 27 SANDF Members Undergo Vocational Training in Taiwan

MB1505153796 Pretoria SALUT in English May 96
p 20

[Report by Lieutenant Niko Allie]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In March, twenty-seven members of the SANDF [South African National Defense Force] left for the Republic of China (ROC), Taiwan, to be trained as instructors for a proposed Vocational Training Center (VTC).

The group will undergo three months of intensive training in garment and shoe making, basic computer training, architectural drawing, electrical work, and maintenance of industrial electronics.

Speaking at a function held for the group at the Embassy of the ROC in Pretoria, Mr. I-cheng Loh, the ROC ambassador, said that he hoped the center would provide training opportunities for marginalized youth in South Africa.

Lt. General Lambert Moloi, chief of the Service Corps, added that the VTC would impact positively on development in SA [South Africa]. "The VTC will empower people, and give them the tools to change and better their lives," he said.

The training programme is part of an agreement signed by President Mandela and ROC Ambassador I-cheng Loh in December. In terms of the agreement, the cost of establishing the VTC in SA will be provided by the ROC in the form of a grant estimated at 146.4 million rand.

Thousands of unemployed people could benefit from the VTC programme when the doors open for the first

trainees during the second half of 1996. Initially, 200 people can be trained in seven fields. When it is fully operational, it will allow 1,500 workers in 31 different categories to be trained simultaneously. It is expected that up to 5,000 skilled workers will be trained annually.

South Africa: Statistics Show Increase in Emigration Figures

MB1305102196 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0954 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria May 13 SAPA — More people emigrated from South Africa in January compared with the previous year and fewer immigrants, according to the figures released on Monday by the Central Statistical Service.

Figures showed 1,417 emigrated in January compared with 1,162 in January 1995 — an increase of 21.9 percent.

Only 322 people immigrated to South Africa in January compared with 445 people in January last year. There was a net loss of 267 people with professional semi-professional and technical skills in January compared with 154 the previous January.

The most popular destinations for emigrants in January were Australia (463), the United Kingdom (224), New Zealand (223) and the United States (130).

The number of South African residents who went overseas temporarily during January increased by 15.1 percent compared with January 1995. The figures also showed the number of overseas visitors increased by 11.7 percent to 100,752 in January compared with the same month last year.

Of overseas visitors, 73.2 percent came on holiday, 13.7 percent on business and five percent for work. The balance were for other purposes or in transit.

South Africa: 'Strong' Migration Pattern to Australia To Continue

MB1605113396 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
16 May 96 p 11

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Melbourne - The reverberations of the National Party withdrawal from South Africa's Government of National Unity would be felt in Australia, which was the main choice of that country's emigrants, the Sydney MORNING HERALD said yesterday.

It predicted that the latest political twist would not necessarily prompt a sudden wave of migration but, along with the currency crisis and the crime wave, it

would ensure that the very strong migration pattern of the last two years would continue.

During 1995, about 54 South Africans arrived in Australia every week to settle.

Paul rentstein, president of the Australia-South Africa Business Council, commented: "The crime wave going through the whole of South Africa has centrally upset families, particularly the younger generation and the younger graduates.

"There is a very strong exodus of professionals - engineers, architects and people in banking and finance. It is going to continue for a while, particularly with the drop in the currency which is being steadily eroded."

It quoted Vernon Katz, a businessman formerly from Johannesburg: "If South Africans can't settle here, they should forget about migrating anywhere in the world. There is simply no other country so inviting and so comfortable."

South African Press Review for 16 May

M 605123396

[S Report]

THE STAR

Botha's Departure 'No Surprise' — "Everybody who has encountered Pik Botha seems to have a story to tell about this larger-than-life politician," says a page-18 Johannesburg THE STAR editorial in English on 16 May. He was "loved and loathed by different sections of the population in the dark days of apartheid," and had a "knack" for attracting publicity. Most whites were impressed with the young Botha for "attempting to defend his government at the United Nations" and he was the "prime mover behind South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia". He also received a "dressing down" for suggesting that South Africa would some day have a

black president. "That he proved to be correct may be why he survived as a cabinet minister in the new order." The announcement that Botha is to retire from politics comes as "no surprise". "Pik was at his height in an era that is long gone."

Opportunity for Redemption — A second editorial on the same page states that "squealing on former friends to save your own skin is distasteful at best," however, Robert McBride must still tell police "which ANC leaders gave him the orders to bomb Magoo's Bar". McBride's reluctance "does not absolve him from another inescapable duty: to appear before the Truth Commission. Nor should the ANC back his refusal — or shield those who gave him orders." In fact, "apartheid's killers and torturers — and those who gave the orders — are extremely lucky to get this opportunity to redeem themselves without punishment".

BUSINESS DAY

Turning Point for Trevor Manuel — According to a page 14 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY editorial in English on 16 May, "Trevor Manuel's contribution to Tuesday's snap parliamentary debate may come to be seen as a turning point in his turbulent first few months in charge at the finance ministry." His speech signified the first time "markets responded positively to what he had to say". Now his statements must be followed up very soon "in a matter of weeks at most — with a detailed exposition of strategy and, as far as is possible, a time frame". He must deal with the fiscal deficit, privatization, "phased abolition of exchange controls", and the government must "carry out its promise of a reduction in the size of the public service". "At the end of this, Manuel and his colleagues will have trodden on many toes and alienated many interest groups. But, as he seemed to imply on Tuesday, there is very little choice if economic stability is to return".

Angola

Angola: FLEC-FAC Chairman — Cease-Fire 'Agreement in Principle'

LD1605162996 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Luanda has resumed dialogue with the independence movements of Cabinda, an oil-rich region in northwest Angola. The Angolan Government and the independence movement FLEC-FAC [Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Cabinda Armed Forces] signed a cease-fire agreement in principle in Libreville, the capital of Gabon. Jean-Karim Fall reports from Libreville:

[Fall] This cease-fire agreement in principle should result in a final truce. So as to reach that stage, other negotiations, mainly between military officials from both sides, are scheduled.

FLEC-FAC Chairman Henrique Tiago N'Zita demands the withdrawal of the Angolan forces from the enclave before laying down arms.

[Begin N'Zita recording] I am saying that what has just been signed here is an agreement in principle. This means that we agree on the idea of a cease-fire. Political, technical, and military aspects remain to be finalized. Angolans must agree to leave the Cabinda territory. This is an occupation and we cannot remain idle. [end recording]

[Fall] By securing an agreement in principle with the FLEC-FAC, the Angolan Government has succeeded in resuming dialogue with the main independence movements of that oil-rich enclave.

Botswana

Botswana: BDF Commander Says 'No Hostile Intentions' Against Namibia

MB1305184196 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network
in English 1610 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The commander of the Botswana Defense Force, BDF, Lieutenant General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, says Botswana believes in the peaceful resolution of disputes. General Khama, who was speaking to local journalists in Kasane on Friday [10 May], was referring to the disputed Sedudu Island in the Chobe area, which is claimed by both Botswana and Namibia. He said Botswana does not see Namibia as a threat, adding that Botswana does not have any hostile intentions against Namibia. He said if Botswana had hostile intentions against Namibia, it would not have offered to train Namibian soldiers.

The Namibian media had recently made allegations that Botswana soldiers deployed in the Ngamiland area, to oversee the exercise to eradicate the cattle lung disease, are concentrated around Sedudu. General Khama said the allegations by the Namibian media are clearly unjustified, as the nearest BDF troops are 320 kilometers away from Botswana's northern border with Namibia, where Sedudu is located.

He said he recently requested the Namibian High Commissioner to ask Namibians who have complaints about the BDF to come forward, so that their complaints may be investigated. General Khama said the High Commissioner found this was unnecessary, saying all the allegations made by the Namibian media about the BDF were false. General Khama was briefing local journalists who had just completed a six-day tour of BDF operations, concerning border patrols, anti-poaching activities, as well as the Army's role in the exercise to eradicate the cattle lung disease.

Botswana: BDF Commander Notes Difficulties in Fighting Armed Poachers

MB1305195396 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network
in English 1910 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The commander of the Botswana Defense Force (BDF), Lieutenant General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, says the Army needs better equipment to fight heavily armed poachers. Speaking to local journalists in Kasane on Friday, General Khama said the poachers used sophisticated weapons such as R1, AK-47, and .375's, which are used mostly in shooting elephants. He said the poachers are from Namibia, Angola, Zambia, and sometimes from Zimbabwe.

The BDF commander said the Army experiences difficulties in their operations against the poachers because of considerable damage to their equipment due to bad terrain. He said in some areas the poachers use aircraft to bring in food and equipment to reduce vehicle maintenance costs. General Khama said the Dutch Government has assisted the BDF by selling them uniforms and equipment at extremely low prices.

He said the United States has also assisted with boats given as grants, which the BDF used for patrolling in the Okavango swamps. He said the German Government gave the BDF strike and logistic equipment as an appreciation of the Army's involvement in anti-poaching and the role it has played in the United Nations peace keeping operations.

Lesotho

Lesotho: Finance, Trade Ministers Resign From Cabinet

MB1505163696 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1621 GMT 15 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MASERU May 15 SAPA — Lesotho Prime Minister Dr Ntsu Mokhele on Wednesday announced the resignation of two ministers from his Cabinet.

Radio Lesotho reported that Trade and Industry Minister Dr Khaehelo Raditapole and Finance and Economic Planning Minister Dr Moeketsi Senoana had resigned.

The announcement said the prime minister had accepted the resignations with effect from Wednesday. No reasons were given for the resignations. This followed a major Cabinet shuffle on May 7 in which four ministers were sacked and four new ministerial appointments were made.

Although no reasons were given for the shuffle, it was believed in political circles that the deposed ministers were linked to a pressure group which associated itself with a High Court case seeking the nullification of elections to the national executive committee of the ruling Basotholand Congress Party. The case is still proceeding in the High Court.

Mozambique

Mozambique: Third Article on Mozambique-U.S. Relations

MB1405152996 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
10 May 96 p 2

["Part Three" of article by Roseiro Mario Moreira: "Mozambique-U.S. Relations — A Look at the Historic and Diplomatic Labyrinths;" on the "Foreground" page]

[FBIS Translated Text]

V. From Monopoly of Power in the People's Republic of Mozambique [PRM] to Pluralist Debates in the United States

In light of what was published earlier (NOTICIAS, Maputo 29 and 30 April) [dates as published], one can infer that it was possible to overcome obstacles in PRM-U.S. bilateralism, which had been growing year after year until 1981. In line with what has been published on this page, which does not suggest a final appraisal of the history of relations between the two states, bilateralism includes a whole set of activities carried out by the governments of the two countries, in which the interests of each or both states are directly or otherwise at play

within the respective national and regional areas, as well as in modern international life.

The success, cooling off, and breach of any bilateralism is always connected to the manner in which the foreign policy of the countries concerned is conducted. The making of decisions in this area being a sovereign action, the difference between foreign policies is clear-cut, even if the common goal is to have relations that yield even better and more favorable results to the specific socioeconomic conditions in each country. It is, therefore, essential to verify the type of influence exerted in drafting the foreign policy of each side, and hence find an explanation for the difficulties encountered in the different phases of bilateralism.

PRM: Monopoly of Power or Concentration of Power?

At independence, all government institutions had to be filled by personnel that identified themselves with Frelimo's [Mozambique Liberation Front] ideology. This implied that the drafting of foreign policy, as a government decision, would be solely and exclusively guaranteed by Frelimo, which was only transformed into a party in 1977 in the absence of any legal opposition to its power by the nonpartisan majority. Songs, speeches, and placards with terms such as "The Party Is the People" and "Frelimo Is the People" inevitably led to the syllogistic conclusion that Frelimo obviously was the sole ideological link between Mozambique and the sacred aspirations of the Makonde, Nyanja, Amakwa, Alomwe, Acwabo, Ma-Sena, Manhungue, Matswa, Mashangaan, Maronga, blacks, whites, mulattos, Goanese, Asian, and other big or small ethnic and racial groups that undoubtedly inhabit this huge country.

Power in the hands of a "party-government-parliament-army-security-and-something else" having been justified, decisions were made under the strict supervision of Mother Frelimo through its Central Committee. It is not surprising that although the whole country was taken into consideration, decisions did not reflect the country's overall reality, but stemmed from one-sided reflection by a strong group though a minority in the national context. It was such decisions, purporting to be a national one, that stood at the negotiating table. Likewise, it was the "Frelimo-Government-Other Institutions" inseparableness that controlled access to the striking of relationships. Essentially, the uniform nature of the Mozambique Government's ideological representativeness dictated over a long period of time the unstable level of relations with the United States since contributions from non-Frelimo members were waived. It is, however, necessary to acknowledge that such an

excessive concentration of powers in the hands of an ideologically undivided ruling elite resulted in the superpower not taking advantage of the situation to transform the PRM's leaders into puppets in its service. As is often said, there are always those in "favor" and those "against." After all, a country's diplomacy is not a patterned and a static concept, but a continually changing way of situating oneself in an equally changing world. It is doubtful there are exceptions to this.

U.S.: Pluralist Debate or Disguised Interests?

It has long been said that in the United States there is a political system that gives all social groups the right and opportunity to air their views on what affects their daily lives in one way or another. The results of implementing a given policy are judged on the basis of its viability, and this affects life inside the country. Meanwhile, even to the extent the government seeks inspiration in the views of citizens represented in social groups, the latter lack absolute capacity to prevail over a government decision. Michael Clough notes that: "In 1987, senators and conservatives delayed the confirmation of Melissa Wells as U.S. ambassador to Mozambique for more than 11 months, in an attempt to force the administration to establish contacts with Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance]."

In addition to having to wait 11 months and two days, Melissa Wells had to answer 246 questions, and the number of votes against her was the highest ever. Confirmed on 11 September 1987, Wells served in Mozambique from 26 September 1987 to 1990, the year that marked the heightening of major domestic changes in Mozambique, which culminated in the introduction of the country's second Constitution, removal of the term, popular, from its formal political designation, and the establishment of political pluralism and other rights for citizens.

If it is true that a pluralist political system is in place in the United States, it is equally true that in the United States there were (do they still exist?) right-wing conservatives who defended (do they still defend?) opposing views like Renamo's.

By virtue of free association in the United States, those right-wingers might have had some influence in maneuvering for or against relations with Mozambique. It should be noted that a modest program drafted by the administration for nonlethal military assistance to Mozambique was rejected by Congress. It is known that at the time the United States had a black list on which the PRM was included. But only the U.S. Congress knows the best reasons for such a position.

For further details on plural influence in decision-making regarding U.S. foreign policy on southern Africa, it is worth mentioning that in addition to the black community, four institutions play a role: the executive branch, which includes the State Department, the Department of Defense, and national security, which are controlled by the president; Congress, which includes the House of Representatives and the Senate; nongovernmental organizations (news media); and academia — the last two are not part of government, but influence it through investigations and hearings on foreign policy. For instance, Chester Crocker was an academic before he joined government. Like Eduard Shevardnadze once said, "there is neither foreign policy nor diplomacy without press, radio, and television." In fact, in addition to the ideological guidelines laid down by different administrations, decisions depend also on that pluralist atmosphere that has played a role in thwarting the goals of certain social groups at odds with Mozambique. And does such a pluralist debate not underscore not-so-recommendable interests that go unnoticed throughout the process of confirming one's appointment by consensus? Perhaps these reflections lead to other clues. Yet, there are answered questions. For the time being this is one of them, or is it not?

Mozambique: Fourth Article on Mozambique-U.S. Relations

MB1405165696 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
11 May 96 p 2

["Part Four" of article by Roseiro Mario Moreira: "Mozambique-U.S. Relations — A look at the Historic and Diplomatic Labyrinths," on the "Foreground" page]

[FBIS Translated Text]

VI. Bilateral Relations After Nkomati

After the exchange of ambassadors and the signing of the Nkomati Accord in 1983 and 1984, respectively, a phase of rapprochement began. Following improvement of political relations, efforts were made to improve economic relations. Thus, in April 1984, Samora Machel invited prominent U.S. banker David Rockefeller to visit Mozambique. Rockefeller expressed optimism about existing possibilities for development projects in Mozambique. One month after the Nkomati Accord's signing, it was felt it would create good security conditions. Was it exaggerated optimism about the Nkomati results or an affront to the policy of a group, the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), that did not share the 16 March diplomatic glory? Whatever the case, even an unattentive negotiator would know that in order to achieve a peaceful resolution of a conflict, it is imperative that all parties involved should cooperate. It is

unbelievable that the Maputo authorities did not know this. As a matter of fact, in the second part of this series, reference was made to this awareness by Samora Machel and his government. Pretoria and Washington also knew it. But all the parties opted not to make this part of the diplomacy. The phase of demands followed. Maputo presented a 12-point demand while Renamo, from Nairobi (Kenya), presented a 16-point demand. It was only at Saint Egidio in Rome that the forgotten Nkomati was revived with the signing of the General Peace Accord.

Although the Nkomati Accord did not immediately halt the course of the armed conflict, Frank Wisner, U.S. assistant deputy secretary of state for African affairs, said David Rockefeller's visit to Mozambique was designed to demonstrate that U.S. businessmen were seriously interested in investing in Mozambique. Machel's invitation already reflected the country's desire to receive foreign investments. U.S. entrepreneurs had no better choice than to respond. In the past, this possibility had been hindered by political rivalry. Although Wisner said "the history of our relations with Mozambique is one between two equal parties," he acknowledged that "Mozambicans demonstrated themselves to be firm negotiators who have been protecting their national sovereignty."

The following year, 1985, a number of U.S. officials and businessmen visited Mozambique. Congressmen and businessmen investigated possibilities to assist victims of natural disasters and investment opportunities. After the reelection of the Reagan government, Mozambique was granted military aid valued at \$1.5 million. Wisner was sent to Mozambique for bilateral contacts with the government. He confirmed the donation of 40,000 tonnes of corn, out of 110 tonnes received during that fiscal year.

Apart from providing assistance, the United States also cooperated with Mozambique in the agricultural, private, and family fields, particularly in Gaza and Maputo Provinces.

Other areas of cooperation with the United States were defined after the granting of the first World Bank loan (\$45 million). The loan agreement was signed in Washington by Ambassador Valeriano Ferrao for the Mozambican side and Hanes Wires, acting deputy president of the International Development Agency for Eastern and Southern African regions, on 23 July 1985.

It is also important to note the involvement of U.S. nongovernmental organizations (NGO's), such as World Vision International, Save the Children, and the Mennonite Central Committee, among others, which helped reduce food problems facing the country. As matter

of fact, U.S. participation in emergency and development programs is more noteworthy through nongovernmental organizations. NGO's are thus cooperative partners in strengthening the Maputo-Washington diplomatic bridge. Both the United States and Mozambique carried out investigations and concluded that NGO's are another channel of relationship. To demonstrate this, let us take, for example, the Mennonite Central Committee. In October 1987, an agronomist volunteer in the service of the religious-oriented Mennonite Central Committee deplored the continued war in Mozambique at a news conference in Washington. He said he witnessed the much-talked-about Homoine massacre, which took place on 18 July 1987. The agronomist, Mark van Koeveing, said at the end of his news conference: "I am not working for the Mozambican Government because of a political philosophy that favors one government for another. I am in Mozambique (...) to serve Christian churches there." He then called on the international community not to support the conflict. The news conference had a major impact in the United States.

There is no doubt that U.S. NGO's played a major role in improving relations between Maputo and Washington. It is, however, important to note that the economy of a country cannot remain under the permanent humanitarian assistance of NGO's. The Mozambican side cannot always live as an aid "recipient." If relations with the superpower have improved, if the struggle against "apartheid" has not been lost, if the war in the country is over, if NGO's have already converted (at least theoretically) emergency humanitarian assistance programs into development projects, if the United States can assist in dialogue between Mozambique and international financial institutions, it is therefore time for Mozambique to stop stretching out its hands for handouts, it is time to understand that to improve relations with other countries does not mean living on handouts from this or that country. It means work. Failure to utilize internal potential for one's own development can create mistrust, it can discourage good relations, or it can benefit only one side — the side with money.

Mozambique: Chissano Receives Angolan General, Gives 'Advice'

MB1505120996 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] President Joaquim Chissano has received in a long audience General Joao de Matos, chief of staff of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). Gen. de Matos told correspondents after the meeting that he briefed the Mozambican statesman on the Angolan peace process and received some advice from Chissano.

Gen. de Matos said they exchanged experiences about the peace processes in the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Almerinho Manheje, Mozambique's minister in the presidency for defense and security affairs, and Lieutenant General Lagos Lidimo, chief of staff of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces. Also today, Joao de Matos was today received by Mozambican Defense Minister Aguiar Mazula.

Our correspondent Ofelia Tembe interviewed Gen. de Matos.

[Begin recording] [Tembe] Gen. Joao de Matos said the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] is neither quartering its soldiers nor handing over its weapons in quantity or quality. He said this has created some problems in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, though the government and FAA are coping with the situation with a view to upholding peace in Angola.

[De Matos] Obviously, we cannot permit two armed forces and two governments in the country. We have legal armed forces that operate constitutionally. All other armed forces that might exist in the country are illegal and should, therefore, be fought.

[Tembe] What about the (?police)?

[De Matos] There is only one police force in Angola. It is protected by the Constitution [words indistinct] and the government. Any other police force that might be in place should also be fought.

[Tembe] UNITA has complained about the so-called ninjas [Rapid Intervention Police], allegedly that they are involved in the regular police force.

[De Matos] There is no constitutional problem. Maybe it is UNITA that does not like that police. It is normal that it does not, but the police are legal and constitutional. If UNITA does not like them, it is its problem, not ours.

[Tembe] Do you think it will be possible to quarter all UNITA soldiers this year, form a single army, and have an equal number of UNITA and government generals?

[De Matos] We are not forming a single army because the FAA is in place. What we are doing is to allow UNITA members to join FAA. The process of integrating UNITA personnel, including its generals in FAA has been very slow. The process is far from being completed, though it was scheduled to end in February 1996. We must be patient and handle the situation as best we can, and prevent a return to war. This is fundamental for the country's development. Let us have patience and continue to use our influence with the backing of the international community so that the process may be

completed. UNITA should at least be totally disarmed and demilitarized so that it can play a fundamental role in the country's development within the framework of democracy. - [Tembe] How do you see the amnesty law declared by the government?

[De Matos] This is the second amnesty. The first was declared in November 1994, but UNITA claimed that it was not far-reaching. Since UNITA is represented in parliament, it placed a new amnesty bill in the National Assembly and it has been approved. The new law is being implemented. Meanwhile, UNITA has made some complaints about the law which was approved on the basis of a UNITA proposal. I do not know whether the UNITA MP's consulted their leaders, but I think they did. The fact is that UNITA is rejecting the law. But let us see how we can handle the situation. [end recording]

Mozambique: Angolan Army Chief Ends Visit, Hails 'Valuable' Experience

MB1605184996 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 16 May 96

[Report by Amelia Muchanga]

[FBIS Translated Text] General Joao Baptista de Matos, Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] chief of General Staff, left Maputo this afternoon for Angola after learning about Mozambican experiences within the context of forming a single army. Gen. de Matos noted that he is taking valuable experiences back to his country concerning the formation of a single army, which also is scheduled to take place in Angola.

[Begin recording] [De Matos] We wanted to listen to the opinions of Mozambican officials on how this process was carried out, how things went, and what were the (?main) difficulties. Above all, we had in-depth discussions on demobilization, and what programs Mozambique has implemented to attend to demobilized soldiers because in Angola we also will have to deal with demobilization issues in the future. My visit was principally a courtesy and friendly visit because we are sister Lusophone countries in southern Africa and we should endeavor to develop ever closer ties.

[Muchanga] From your point of view, what is hindering the peace process?

[De Matos] As you probably know, the Angolan peace process is extremely complex and it has had major external interference. Above all, all Angolans must be patient to ensure its successful completion. At this stage, there are difficulties concerning its implementation because the clause on the complete disarmament of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] troops has not been fully implemented yet. In addition,

UNITA has not yet been completely transformed into a national civilian party that can act as unarmed political opposition. As you know, UNITA is still an armed military opposition party. One of the most difficult things is to get UNITA to change into a civilian party interested in rebuilding and developing the country, instead of constantly seeking to hinder Angola's progress.

[Muchanga] Do you think the recently approved Amnesty Law will help speed demobilization? What is its aim?

[De Matos] The amnesty law is a second law that has been drafted to bring reconciliation to the Angolan people. However, UNITA has not fully accepted it yet. We will continue to work to see that process through. [end recording]

Concerning the FAA chief of General Staff's contacts in Maputo, Gen. de Matos said the main finding was that the countries must continue talking, cooperating, and strengthening friendship ties. He added that FAA is interested in maintaining active and effective cooperation ties with the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM.

Mozambique: Frelimo Session Ends; Congress Planned Next Year

MB1105155996 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party will hold its congress within a year. This was revealed this morning during the closing of the Frelimo Party Central Committee session. On the occasion, Frelimo Party Chairman Joaquim Chissano expressed satisfaction with his party's work:

[Begin Chissano recording] We began well. After the 1994 elections, we began our work very well to implement our party program for governing the country, that is the reconstruction and development program. Thus, we need to be closer to the people. We have to be part of the people. We have to act not only as officials but as individuals who always learn from the people, to improve our leadership qualities. [end recording]

Mozambique: Frelimo Central Committee Session Issues Final Communiqué

MB1205161796 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 12 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party Central Committee issued a final communiqué at the end of its session in Matola yesterday. The final communiqué says the government must adopt measures to guarantee the sale of surplus

produce. A good harvest is expected this year but major transportation problems exist because of bad roads.

The Frelimo Party Central Committee also instructed the government to adopt measures designed to stabilize the prices of basic commodities.

According to the communiqué, the government must always correct irregularities detected in the privatization of state enterprises, the sale of state-owned houses, [words indistinct] of the economy, and the rational utilization of resources.

Mozambique: Exclusion of Renamo From Defense Council Criticized

MB1005144996 Maputo IMPARCIAL in Portuguese 30 Apr 96 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] After a long period of silence, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama against threw the cat among the pigeons at a news conference last week, when he commented on the difficulties the country is facing. However, what really irked the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] chieftains was that the Renamo leader had the gall to put his finger in the wound called the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces [FADM], to the extent that he threatened to order Lieutenant General Mateus Ngonhamo, FADM chief of General Staff, out of the army.

Irrespective of the legal or constitutional interpretation you attach to Dhlakama's stand, the truth is FADM — with forces which came from Frelimo and Renamo ranks — is beset by problems.

The Frelimo Party has not yet forgotten the "beating" its "competent" and "patriotic" army received during the 16-year civil war from those its contemptuously called "armed bandits," while many generals and senior officers made their fortunes at the expense of the FPLM's [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] "ghosts" and "villainous excesses."

The formation of a single army was one of the Rome Accord's clauses that most displeased Frelimo. There was a whiff of vindictiveness about appointing Ngonhamo to work side-by-side with a man who was one of the main executioners in the one-party system's defense and security forces.

In addition, when the FADM was formed, rumors started circulating that in the barracks there was a certain discrimination against former Renamo soldiers because of their poor academic background. There was talk that they were the victims of traps such as being awarded high posts with the clear intention of allowing

them to slip so that eventually they would be seen as incompetent.

Concerning training, the possibility of discrimination has not been totally brushed aside. Frelimo Party Secretary General Manuel Tome certainly means it to understand that this was possible when he talked about the need to give priority to skilled people when it comes to conveying scientific knowledge to soldiers.

Yet another vindictive move by the Frelimo Party was the failure to include any Renamo members in the National Defense Council. On the basis of "constitutionality," this actually means that only Frelimo will know Mozambique's military secrets.

Tome's remarks were even more surprising when he said that his party wants Renamo to be financially stable. Tome was one of the most outspoken critics of the EU's decision to cover all the debts picked up by Renamo during the 1994 electoral campaign.

Friction between Frelimo and Renamo is likely to increase in the run-up to local elections. Frelimo will try to "erase" its very poor image with the electorate, after its promises of a better future that no one believes in any more. Renamo will try to correct the mistakes that cost it the first general multiparty elections.

Even the Renamo leader recognized those errors when he admitted that his strategy had only favored Frelimo.

Mozambique: Renamo Warns of 'Holy Wars' in Introducing Muslim Holidays

MB1405184696 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 14 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] Deputy Antonio Mafuta Banda said the promulgation of the Law on Islamic Holidays could lead to conflict in Mozambique similar to those in the Sudan and other countries beset by holy wars. [passage omitted]

The Renamo deputy said the Assembly of the Republic's proceedings were positive in the sense that national issues were discussed, though at times the Assembly seemed like a bullring. He said every effort was made to ensure that the Assembly approved some laws that would benefit the people. He spoke about the much-discussed matter of Islamic holidays, the minimum wage, the declaration of the [word indistinct] amounts, and, in a nutshell, what he thought were issues of national interest. [passage omitted]

He said the possible promulgation of the Law on Islamic Holidays [words indistinct] gross interference in matters that do not fall under the government's, or

the Assembly's, responsibility. He added this could lead to a very dangerous situation in the country that might threaten the years of peace we have experienced so far. [passage omitted]

Mozambique: Native Traders Complain 'Indians' Thwarting Native Efforts

MB1405135996 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 May 96

[Report by Boaventura Macauze in Nampula Province]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Small and big businessmen are at loggerheads in Nampula Province's Mogovolas District.

The majority of the small businessmen are native Mozambicans and they accuse so-called Indian businessmen of thwarting their business efforts, notably by paying peasants far more than stipulated by law. They add that native Mozambican businessmen do not have the money to match those offers.

(Jose Sequire Mocueja), a businessman who operates in the Nampira area of Mogovolas District, said this:

[Begin Mocueja recording] They are doing this to block the native Mozambican — to block the black man. [passage omitted]

I am speaking on behalf of all businessmen. [end recording]

The Mogovolas district commissioner told Radio Mozambique there is truth to those complaints but there is little one can do because it is all in accordance with current market laws. [passage omitted]

Swaziland

Swaziland: King Departs With Delegation for Kuwait, Taiwan

MB1305074796 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 13 May 96 p 1

[Report by Nkululeko Dlamini]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Matsapha — His Majesty King Mswati III, leading a delegation of 21 people including security and press men, left the country yesterday for Kuwait. From Kuwait, he will visit the Republic of China to attend the inauguration of President Lee Teng-Hui and the Vice-President Lien Chan.

It could not be established when the King would return from his overseas trip. He will first pay a three-day state visit to Kuwait. The King was invited to that country by the Amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.

The delegation comprised Inkhosikati LaNgangaza, Princess Msindvose, Prince Hlangabeza, Chief Gobizembe, Indvuna Dibanisa Mavuso, Chief Officer Andreas Fakudze, Private Secretary Paul Shabangu and Foreign Affairs Minister Senator Arthur Khoza.

Also in the delegation were Principal Protocol Officer, Mavis Litchfield Tibiyo Taka Ngwane [Swazi National Development Agency] General Manager Ndvumiso Mamba, eight security men and three press men.

According to information gathered yesterday the pressmen include Ministry of Information Services, Mbonjeni Simelane. It was also gathered that Outside Broadcasting's (OB) Qhawe Mamba is in the delegation.

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mduduzi Magongo, said during the visit the King will hold high level talks with his counterpart in Kuwait. He said the delegation has a tight programme too.

The King will also meet top business executives. Top executives such as those from the chamber of commerce and industry will call on the royal delegation.

He said the director-general of Kuwait Fund for Arabic Economic Development will also hold high level talks with the delegation. From Kuwait, the King will proceed to the ROC at the invitation of that country's government to attend the inauguration ceremony. He stated that the King will be joining 10 other heads of state who have been invited to attend the ceremony.

The King left aboard a chartered plane at 5:15 PM and was seen off by the Acting Prime Minister, Sishayi Nxumalo. Cabinet ministers were also present. The King arrived at the airport under heavy escort and immediately mounted on the dias. He was clad in a grey suit. He inspected the guard of honour.

Magongo said the plane has only been chartered from Swaziland to Johannesburg International Airport.

The rest of the delegation left aboard the Fokker F28 immediately after the King's plane. From Johannesburg the king will board a commercial flight.

Swaziland: Prime Minister Reportedly Not Fired, 'Relieved' of Duties

*MB1605163196 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1614 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] NELSPRUIT May 16 SAPA — Swaziland's former prime minister was not fired, he was "relieved" of his duties, Broadcasting and Information Prince Khuzulwandle Minister said on Thursday.

"It's not the first time that a member of parliament has been relieved of his duties after years of hard work," Khuzulwandle said, referring to the dismissal of Prince Mbilini Dlamini, African Eye News Service reported.

Swaziland: Trade Union Leader Sithole on Recent Talks at Royal Corral

*MB1305194796 Mbabane Swazi Television in English
1730 GMT 13 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The secretary general of the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions, Mr. Jan Sithole, says the talks held at the royal cattle byre exposed the country to the fact that there are now different factions in this country.

[Begin Sithole recording] There's a portion of the Swazi community that wants multiparties, the portion of Swazi community that wants tinkhundla [traditional community councils], but both sectors want the king, and they love their king. It is now incumbent upon the king to try and harmonize, try to find a dispensation that will harmonize the different views so that everybody feels accommodated in the dispensation process. We hope this was not just a role play to make a hullabaloo or international gallery that people do get assembled, and consultations take place. We hope that was tapping what people think of the changes.

Having said that, it has been clear that, definitely, the whole mechanism of handling the scenario was unprofessional — unprofessional in the sense that the camp that was controlling the chair was an interested party in the whole debate. As a result they even committed blunders such like [as heard] getting toddlers, and feed them what to say. This actually displays mockery of the democracy we are trying to put across; and, actually, mockery of the Swazi democracy that we are trying to portray, and it's showing how other people are unserious about a national dispensation that has to take Swazis now, and for generations to come, ahead. What has also come out clear is that we then need a professional situation where the current government cannot run the process of change.

We cannot allow champions of bad governance to be captains of a good governance process, and as such we need an interim government that will control [pauses]... that will see through the period of change, and also the chairman of the Constitution Committee which should be elected, should be taken from all formations — political, traditional, handicapped, and all civic groups should be run and be headed by a judge, and should have terms of reference. We would be happy with a situation where we would go through the dispensation process without escalating divisions. [end recording]

Zambia

Zambia: Vice President — Britain 'Imposing' Kaunda, Demands Apology

MB1605174296 Lusaka THE POST in English
16 May 96

[Report by Bright Mwape; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It was Britain which took the fluff again yesterday, when Vice-President Godfrey Miyanda accused her of imposing Kenneth Kaunda on Zambia.

Vice-President Miyanda also attacked Britain for introducing visas for Zambians entering that country saying "the move smacks of suspicion and Zambia will hit back".

"There is nothing wrong with donors. It would be naive to be afraid of them," Vice-President Miyanda said. "It is what we agree to do which matters. But donors must respect us."

"I can confess to you that I simply love London. To me there is not a place like London. Each time I am in Europe I want to pass through London. Now to be told I need a visa to visit my London, there must be a problem there," the Vice-President said as he was winding up debate on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

The Vice-President said Britain had been encroaching on Zambia for a while and it was time she apologised. "I want to go to London without a visa or paying K90,000 [kwachas]," Vice-President Miyanda said as the house cheered him. "If not then we must reciprocate as a sovereign nation."

Communication and Transport minister Dawson Lupunga added: "We must not just complain, we must tell them through the right diplomatic channel." Vice-President Miyanda agreed: "All right we are doing that."

He said universally citizenship is settled by birth or descent but Britain forgot this fact and imposed Kaunda, a foreigner, to rule Zambia. "Britain should say sorry," he demanded.

He accused Britain of supporting the retention of this status quo now using their aid to Zambia. "We were told that if we do not allow one man to stand they will withhold 10 million pounds pledged to Zambia," he said.

Members chorused: "Shame, shame."

"It is not a secret it was in THE POST newspaper. But we love donors and our comments on them should not be misunderstood. All we are saying is that we are a sovereign state."

For almost a month now the government has been publicly attacking Britain particularly her high commissioner Patrick Nixon whom it has accused of encouraging disinvestment in Zambia.

The attacks appear to have been precipitated by Britain's withholding of 10 of the 20 million pounds pledged for violation of good governance issues, the privatisation of the mines and the unpopular adoption of the constitution.

Vice-President Miyanda, however, told the house the citizenship clause will not be dropped by MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] as the bill passed its final phase in parliament today.

Zambia: Minister Resigns Over Constitutional Reform Differences

MB0805204796 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network
in English 1910 GMT 8 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Zambian cabinet minister resigned today citing irreconcilable differences with the ruling MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Party on proposed constitutional reforms currently under debate in parliament. The minister of works and supply, Mr. Simon Zukas, said he resigned to express himself freely on proposed reforms to electoral laws, widely seen as an attempt to broker former President Kenneth Kaunda. Mr. Zukas was heavily criticized by cabinet colleagues recently for proposing that the electoral reforms only be introduced after the elections due in October.

Zambia: MDD Votes in Favor of Controversial Constitutional Law

MB1605115096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1029 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] LUSAKA May 16 SAPA-AFP — A controversial new constitution which would bar former president Kenneth Kaunda from standing for the presidency again was due to begin its final stages through Zambia's parliament Thursday.

The parliament, dominated by President Frederick Chiluba's Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD), voted overwhelmingly in favour of the new law when it passed through its second reading stage Wednesday.

It was supported by 121 MMD members, with two opposition MPs from the National Party voting against. The 22 MPs representing Kaunda's United National Independence Party (UNIP) walked out of parliament last week and boycotted the debate.

The most controversial clause of the new constitution would effectively disqualify Kaunda for running for election again because his parents were immigrants from Malawi. Kaunda, 72, was born in Zambia and ruled the country for 27 years from independence in 1964 until being ousted by Chiluba in 1991 elections.

In interviews with AFP last week, Chiluba vowed to defy internal and international criticism and sign the new constitution into law, while Kaunda threatened to lead a civil disobedience campaign if he does so.

Elections are due to be held before November.

Zambia: Further on Approval of Constitutional Bill

MB1605174196 Lusaka THE POST in English
16 May 96

[Report by Bright Mwape; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ruling MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] parliamentarians yesterday wound up the day briefly singing Kaunda alala (we've defeated Kaunda) after they successfully passed the Constitution (Amendment) Bill by 121 votes against 2.

Although the vote was merely academic, the House came alive before lunch as MMD members of parliament prodded Vice-President Godfrey Miyanda to quickly wind up debate so they can vote.

As soon as Speaker Robinson Nabulyato called for the vote they trooped out of the House in traditional voting style.

The only two dissenting voices of Inonge Mbikusita-Lewanika and her brother Akashambatwa, both of National Party, were jokingly dragged towards the yes vote exit but freed themselves and voted no.

As the MPs walked back into the house they remarked "it is finished", "fait accompli", "twashika (We've buried)", "Kaunda yamana", and "the hour is winning, the hour is working".

"I had put the question that those who wanted the bill to be read for the second time say so. Those saying yes, 121. Those saying no 2. There are no abstentions. May the bill be read a second time," Nabulyato announced as the house chorused "hear hear".

The MMD position had been settled at a caucus prior to commencement of debate. All the MMD MPs present therefore voted in favour of the bill criticised heavily for its discrimination and abusive nature.

Even the only critics within MMD, Yusuf Badat, Guy Scott, William Harrington and Hamir voted along without any protest.

The only ones conspicuously absent were Simon Zukas and Dipak Patel, the only two cabinet ministers ever to resign over this constitution. Zukas stayed away from parliament the whole day while Patel walked out before voting started.

The opposition UNIP [United National Independence Party] of former president Kaunda boycotted debate on the constitution for the fourth day running and missed the vote.

From the mood among MPs after voting, it was apparent most of them perceived the constitution as a Kenneth Kaunda stopper.

"It's been a very successful day for us," deputy minister Eric Silwamba remarked.

And Chipili MP Ntongo Chindoloma remarked as he walked into the house: "Kaunda is history, and many more of you foreigners."

Chindoloma's pattern was imitated by several.

ZAMBIA: Government Calls on UNIP To Return to Parliament

MB1305143896 (Internet) Zambia Today in English
12 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The government has urged the United National Independence Party (UNIP) to go back to Parliament and air their views on the on-going Constitutional (Amendment) Bill debate.

Speaking on Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) live television programme "Constitution Review Debate", Legal Affairs Minister Dr Remmy Mushota said government was prepared to consider proposals from the opposition if they went back to the House.

Speaking at the same forum, Petauke Member of Parliament Mr Lavu Mulimba (UNIP) said the forthcoming general elections could be held under the 1991 constitution because consensus of the people country-wide had not yet been concluded.

However, Dr Mushota said the question of holding constitutional enactment until after elections, did not arise because government's constitution review programme was set to be done in the first five years.

During the same programme, UNIP secretary for Legal, Constitutional and Political Affairs, Ms Mwangala Zaloumis, condemned parliamentarians for focusing the Constitutional (Amendment) bill on only the presidential clause at the expense of all other clauses of national concern.

Dr Musho'a responded to that by accusing the media of deliberately omitting contributions on other clauses and only concentrate on the presidential ones and the UNIP walk out.

He, however, said government would never stop talking about Dr Kaunda because he has institutionalized himself. [passage omitted]

Zambia: Kaunda Says UNIP Committed to 'Plural Politics'

MB1505160396 Lusaka THE POST in English
15 May 96 p

[Report by Reuben Phiri; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Opposition UNIP [United National Independence Party] will commit itself to democracy and a lasting foundation for plural politics through the establishment of viable institutions which will ensure citizens' participation in national issues, promised party president Kenneth Kaunda in Lusaka yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference to launch the 1996 UNIP manifesto at Pamodzi Hotel, president Kaunda complained about the rapid deterioration in the quality of life of Zambians since the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] came to power in November 1991.

"In 1994 the decline was 7 per cent and in 1995 it was 4 per cent while the population continues to grow at 3.4 per cent," Kaunda said. "The economy has been grossly mismanaged and abused as evidenced by an unstable macro-economic environment as indicated by high inflation, high unemployment and unstable exchange rates."

President Kaunda, who partially conceded that the economy had started to decline under his government, blamed the deterioration on the liberation struggle in the Southern African region and "the energy crisis which tripled the cost of oil in 1973, inducing a worldwide recession. The need to sustain development against the background of these overwhelming factors forced the government to start borrowing from the international money markets," president Kaunda explained.

"Our consultations with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund then affirmed the need to sustain development." The UNIP president also reiterated his earlier claims that the privatisation programme was his government's "baby."

"There is ample evidence that the MMD is doing what we left. If you check the 1989 budget speech of my former finance minister late Gibson Chigaga, you will

find everything that MMD are doing," president Kaunda said, asking: "Who copied from who?"

President Kaunda also complained about the level of political maturity. "Thirty-two years after attaining nationhood we are trivialising important national issues and developing personal constitutions," Kaunda said.

And president Kaunda vowed to defy the law if the Constitution bill is passed to bar him from contesting for presidency. "To bar me from standing one has to go and dig out my umutoto (umbilical cord), dig all the bones of old man David Kaunda and Hellen Kaunda from Lubwe Mission in Chinsali," Kaunda challenged. "Without that there is no hope at all."

But Finance Minister Ronald Penza said Kaunda should go ahead and exhume his mother if that pleases him but Zambia would not again allow him to rule. Kaunda re-affirmed his support for the UNIP walk-out from Parliament saying, "UNIP did not want to legitimise criminal acts".

"We fully support our colleagues for what they have done as almost all political leaders and other interested parties, including the Mwanakatwe Commission, recommended consensus as the approach to the adoption of the constitution," he said. President Kaunda also charged that MMD chairman Sikota Wina's last week's accusations of interference in Zambia's internal affairs by Botswana president and chairman of the Frontline heads of state, Quett Masire, for suggesting that a meeting be convened to address "the crisis in Zambia" showed the extent to which the MMD was detached from "reality".

"It is surprising that they are saying there is no crisis," president Kaunda said. "This is not reading the situation correctly."

Zambia: MDD Parliament Member Berates Asian MP With 'Racist' Remarks

MB1005093296 Lusaka THE POST in English
10 May 96

[Report by Sipo Kapumba: "Racial Remarks Drive Dipak Out of Parliament" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former commerce, industry and trade minister Dipak Patel yesterday walked out of Parliament in protest of racial attacks by MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Chipili Member of Parliament, Ntongo Chindoloma.

Chindoloma accused Zambians of Asian origin of having made a lot of money when they had come with little when they settled here. The remarks annoyed Patel.

"He is talking rubbish," Patel responded and walked out of the House. Later in an interview Patel said he could

not stand for Chindoloma's racist remarks. "I walked out because I despise the derogatory, foul mouthed, racist and shallow debate of honourable Chindoloma who was talking racist rubbish," he said. "It is sad that MMD has an MP of such low calibre."

Patel said he would have the MMD constitution translated into vernacular so that Chindoloma could understand MMD policies as well as part three of the Constitution. Justifying the clause restricting the presidency to third generation Zambians, Chindoloma said in Fiji, an indigenous Fijian captain had taken over the government from a "Patel" who won the elections because he could not stand a "settler" ruling.

And in India, despite calls for Rajiv Ghandi's widow to stand as prime minister after his assassination, she was barred because she was Italian.

At this point, Patel walked out of the House in protest. This prompted Mongu Member of Parliament, Akashambatwa Mbikusita-Lewanika to raise a point of order on whether Chindoloma was in order to make "embarrassing and racial remarks beyond the endurance of this House".

And in his ruling speaker Robinson Nabulyato told Chindoloma to be constructive in his debate and avoid racial remarks.

Chindoloma also criticised the donor community whom he called "Kaloba Community," meaning shylocks, whom he said were only interested in enriching themselves and not helping Zambia develop.

"What right do they have to involve themselves in matters affecting Zambians," he said. "If they feel strongly about their aid they should go elsewhere."

Chindoloma said the thinking of the British government through its High Commissioner may have been clouded by "the mad cow beef they have been eating". Chindoloma also called for reciprocal visa restrictions against Britain and curtailing of movements of foreign diplomats claiming "this happened in other countries."

And Kafue Member of Parliament for MMD, Yusuf Badat, expressed concern that the preamble of the constitution which declares Zambia a Christian nation would lead to discrimination of other religions because it might in future be made law. He asked the government to give other religions assurance that this would not happen.

Patel said he had no problem with those insisting that third generation Zambians only should qualify for president since this was the people's wish.

Zambia: MMD National Secretary Criticized for 'Embarrassing' Chiluba

*MB1405170996 Lusaka THE POST in English
14 May 96*

[Report by Reuben Phiri; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] national secretary, Michael Sata, was yesterday harangued by the party's National Executive Committee (NEC) at State House for allegedly embarrassing President Chiluba at last week's inter-party meeting.

NEC sources told THE POST last night that the party's executive committee meeting, which followed a cabinet one, ran from 1400 hours till about 2100 hours debating, among other things, the current political developments in the country.

The meeting was particularly called to deal with the adoption of the new MMD manifesto but also dealt with Sata's conduct. Some NEC members wanted to see Sata suspended for antagonising party members and executing a covert political agenda which may be costly to President Chiluba's re-election in the forthcoming presidential elections. "It will be unlikely that Sata would survive today's meeting. The plan is to have him suspended. He has burnt his fingers trying to mess up the head of state and party president," a source said.

But by 2200 hours last night it was not clear whether the NEC had taken any conclusive action against Sata. There was, however, information that key NEC members were averse to taking any action against Sata. "Even those who previously indicated they would speak out furiously on the matter appear to be reluctant to face Sata," an NEC source revealed. "It is clear that we are not ready to deal with Sata because key people are worried about his capacity to hit back."

When contacted from his home last night, Sata declined to discuss the matter. [passage omitted]

Cameroon

Cameroon: Forces Claim 80 Nigerian Soldiers Arrested

AB1305141396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Cameroonian forces have taken about 80 Nigerian soldiers prisoner in recent clashes on the Bakassi Peninsula. This was disclosed this morning by the Cameroonian Military Command at Ekondo Titi. The same source explained that the members of the Nigerian crack troops of the 82d Battalion based at Jaji, Kaduna, were blocked at Gidigidi in the center of the peninsula for two weeks. The 80 Nigerian soldiers could no longer get any food or water supplies and therefore had no other choice but to surrender or die of hunger and thirst, a Cameroonian officer explained.

Cote d'Ivoire

Cote d'Ivoire: Foreign Minister Discusses Liberia, Sierra Leone

AB1505231796 Abidjan La Chaine Une Television
Network in French 2000 GMT 15 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] Foreign Minister Amara Essy this morning held a press briefing in Abidjan. The briefing centered on the situation in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified Correspondent] Africa is the continent of conflicts with areas of tension kindled here and there with their attendant acts of violence. The causes of these conflicts are hatred, jealousy, and disdain. With a little more tolerance and indulgence, we can avoid these tragedies which constitute real genocides. Today, wars constitute a phenomenon which is paralyzing Africa — an already poor continent. When a country is at war, its neighbors are not spared. They assume heavy responsibilities such as welcoming the refugees coupled with heavy and unforeseen expenses. The efforts of the international community are often without any results. Despite the several moves made to mediate the Liberian conflict, the war is still going on. This is why Amara Essy said this morning that the solution of the Liberian conflict lies with the Liberians themselves. He later spoke about the role played by our country in this fratricidal war.

[Essy] Already, Cote d'Ivoire has enormously participated in the operations of the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG] through the fact that we are Liberia's neighbor. You know the cost that we have paid for this conflict through the various conferences that we have organized. We sometimes received 120 delegations from only one faction for several days. These are huge sums

of money spent. We even once sent all these factions to Geneva when President Houphouet-Boigny was in Geneva at that time. So, all the structures and machinery established for solving this conflict which were at Yamoussoukro had to be moved to Geneva to meet there for two or three days. Apart from that, we have 580 km of borderline with Liberia and it is not a small task to maintain the military elements which must necessarily be fed and provided with vehicles. These are huge sums of money.

Concerning our participation in the ECOMOG, I have always said that when a peacekeeping force is formed, it is necessary to see to it that there is no predominance of the neighboring countries. Just imagine that if the UNIFIL force which is currently operating in Lebanon should be composed of Syrians, Jordanians, and other Arab countries, what would it have yielded. Today, in this conflict, there is a tribal war going on. Krahn's are fighting against Gios and we have Krahn's as well as Gios in Cote d'Ivoire. Certainly, Cote d'Ivoire will be present in Liberia — we have always said that we are ready to send medical personnel there — and this remains our philosophy. Cote d'Ivoire has intervened everywhere; for example, we sent medical personnel to Congo some time ago. So, I think that if the conditions are met for a medical corps to be sent to satisfy the Liberian people, the president will decide.

[Correspondent] After his briefing, the minister answered questions put to him by journalists. Here, Amara Essy explains why the authorities have not wanted to receive this second batch of Liberians.

[Essy] People have carried this section concerning 4,000 refugees to the media. Certainly, life is life and every life is very important, but what is certain is that compared with the situation of 750,000 refugees that we have kept for more than five years, nobody made mention of this. The press often carries an event to the media — I am happy about it if only it can make people conscious of the tragedy of the 750,000 refugees who have been with us for five years now and who have been weighing enormously on the economy of the countries of the subregion. This has made me say that the Economic Community of West African States, instead of advancing toward integration, is drifting toward disintegration and this is very important. I am astonished to note that today, some countries give lessons on humanitarian operations. Cote d'Ivoire has been doing this for five years now — even before then.

[Correspondent] During this press briefing, the minister of foreign affairs also announced that the armed rebellion in Sierra Leone has renounced the armed struggle. In fact, Foday Sankoh and the Revolutionary United

Front have decreed a final cease-fire as a result of the negotiations held over the past few weeks in Cote d'Ivoire. [end recording]

Cote d'Ivoire: Foreign Minister Comments on Sierra Leone Mediation

LD1605132296 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The RUF [United Revolutionary Front] has turned its back for good on armed struggle. A declaration signed by the Ivorian Foreign Minister Amara Essy states that the rebels of the United Revolutionary Front have accepted a permanent cease-fire and that they have decided to no longer take up arms.

Amara Essy made these remarks yesterday in Abidjan, where negotiations that began last month between the rebels and the new Sierra Leonean Government are continuing. This is a civilian government which was born out of the general elections held in February and March.

The head of Ivorian diplomacy therefore appears to be optimistic, but as for Corporal Foday Sankoh, he has stated that he is not aware of anything. The RUF leader asserted that his delegation, which is negotiating at the moment in Abidjan, has said nothing to him. Indeed, he added: We are not abandoning the armed struggle. Still, Cote d'Ivoire seems determined to help matters along, although Foreign Minister Amara Essy admits that a final solution will not be reached in the near future. Amara Essy speaks to Jean-Jacques Louarne:

[Begin recording] [Essy] If we reach a political solution... [pauses] a legal one can still be found. President Henri Konan Bedie is going to make proposals in view of a document which was drawn up by both sides in order to see what the common points are.

[Louarne] What will become of Corporal Foday Sankoh? Could we imagine him becoming vice president one day?

[Essy] He may well become not only a minister, but he may even hold the post of vice president [words indistinct]. Indeed, according to [word indistinct] analysis, he is not fighting to become president or a minister. He is fighting for a cause, and that is the cause he is defending. But what role could he play effectively? I think we are still far from a final settlement because, as you know, one must be cautious with the liberation movement. We have had four Yamoussoukro agreements on Liberia. When we thought we had found a final solution, everything started again. [end recording]

Cote d'Ivoire: Paper Reports U.S. Interpellation on Liberian Refugees

AB1405181796 Abidjan LA VOIE in French 14 May 96 p 4

[Article by Franck Dally: "Liberian Refugees: The United States Interpellates Cote d'Ivoire"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A Nigerian cargo ship, the "Bulk Challenger," carrying 3,500 people fleeing Liberia was not allowed to dock at Ivorian ports. The United States Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire reminded the Ivorian Government that "international regulations exist and that they must be respected."

The cargo ship, the "Bulk Challenger," carrying about 3,500 passengers from Liberia was unable to dock at the Abidjan port as it had been planned on the morning of 9 May when it was leaving San-Pedro, where it had undergone repairs. Despite a flurry of diplomatic activity and the intervention of some non-governmental organizations, the Ivorian authorities remained inflexible at both San-Pedro, where the refugees were taken back on board by force, and Abidjan. Following this, the spokesman of the U.S. Embassy said: "international regulations exist and they must be respected."

When the UNHCR in Abidjan was contacted, it expressed the same concerns as the headquarters of its organization in Geneva, without making any further comments. According to El Hadj Abou Raouf Issaka, the UNHCR delegate, the vessel from Liberia was going to Accra, (Ghana), and it stopped at San-Pedro for repairs. However, what worried us, said Mr. Issaka, was that the repairs made were not enough to guarantee the ship's safe passage to Ghana. The UNHCR delegate mentioned that when the refugees were leaving Monrovia, they clearly informed his organization that they were going to Ghana. [passage omitted]

Concerning the interpellation of Cote d'Ivoire by the United States, Mr. Issaka did not want to make any comments. He pointed out, however, referring to recent history, that the United States had sent back Haitians who were traveling on clandestine boats... [passage omitted]

Cote d'Ivoire: Government To Punish Soldiers Involved in Election Violence

AB1705103296 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 0700 GMT 17 May 96

[Report by Defense Minister Bandama Ngatta on actions to be taken against officers and soldiers involved in 1995 election violence, following a meeting between

President Bedie and senior military officials in Abidjan on 16 May — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Aware of the seriousness of the situation that was explained to them on 8 May, the officers of the rank of general and other senior officers were received, at their request, by the president of the Republic at the Presidential Palace today at 1630. The spokesmen of the Army, the Air Force, the Navy, and the National Gendarmerie respectively took the floor to deplore and condemn the shameful behavior of the soldiers involved in the September and October 1995 events.

In these various addresses, the entire Army reaffirmed its total support for the head of state to take exemplary sanctions against the elements at fault and demanded that justice be done in a law-abiding state like ours. On behalf of the National Armed Forces, the chief of staff thanked the president of the Republic for trusting the Army by regularly and closely associating it with the management of state affairs. Indeed, top posts have always been entrusted to soldiers in the government, diplomacy, central administration, notably in territorial administration, and at the head of important public establishments.

Furthermore, the chief of staff, after recalling the events of 1990 and 1993 which tarnished the image of the Armed Forces and sullied its credibility, deplored the unspeakable behavior of certain soldiers at a time when, even more than in the past, Cote d'Ivoire should count on all its sons, particularly the soldiers, in order to resolutely continue, in a climate of peace and security, the task of national building. Such lapses from the basic values of the Army as discipline, loyalty, availability, rigor, and dignity should be punished in an exemplary manner.

That is why the Army demands that, without any exception, the soldiers at fault and their accomplices — both officers and soldiers of all ranks — account for their acts before the military authority in line with the rules of the military code of conduct because the mistakes made by the soldiers expose them to both disciplinary, professional, and statutory sanctions without prejudice to any possible court action. It is at this cost that the Army will recover its cohesion so as to fully assume its mission of defending the nation, maintaining order, executing laws, and taking part in the common task of national building.

The head of state took note of the Army's position and once again recalled that since Cote d'Ivoire is a law-abiding state, no one is above the law. Indeed, it is high time to put an end to these erring ways that cast aspersion on the Army and the country as a whole.

In conclusion, the president of the Republic and supreme head of the Army, recommended to the soldiers to henceforth adopt an exemplary behavior and set down to work like the other components of the nation for the birth of a new united Ivorian society based on patriotism, justice, sharing of the nation's wealth, and peace in order to achieve the objective of progress for all and happiness for everyone.

[Abidjan LA VOIE in French on 17 May at page 4 adds the following: "October 1995 events: Sanctions will be taken against soldiers involved... The Defense Minister Bandama Ngatta read a statement on national television yesterday relating to the "September and October 1995 events." The Armed Forces officers, who were received by the head of state, called for "disciplinary and statutory sanctions, without prejudice to any possible court action, against all soldiers of all ranks" found to have been involved. Therefore, a clean up is under way within the Armed Forces."]

Ghana

Ghana: Liberian Refugees Said in 'High Spirits' in Takoradi Camp

AB1605192196 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 16 May 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hundreds, if not thousands of Liberian refugees are now settling down in a makeshift camp at the Ghanaian port of Takoradi after disembarking from the leaky Nigerian freighter, Bulk Challenge on Tuesday [14 May]. They had a bad nine-day voyage. Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire] turned them away and it took three attempts before the Ghanaians let them land at Takoradi. There were reports that they had been low on food and water on the overcrowded ship and that disease was breaking out.

Well, Chris Ashay of the UNHCR in Ghana has been to see the Liberian boat people at Takoradi. Mary Harper asked him how they seemed.

[Begin recording] [Ashay] I had the occasion to interact with many of them and they are in high spirits, but they would have liked to be in Liberia, not in Ghana. They were forced to leave by forces beyond their control.

[Harper] And in what kind of physical shape were they in?

[Ashay] Well, they are in good shape. On Monday [13 May], the government did attend to them medically and subsequently when the ship came to dock, there were UNICEF supplies, WHO supplies; medical supplies

were provided as well as government regional supplies. They were attended to by doctors. So, I think that things started getting better since then.

[Harper] I hear that yesterday, there were terrible rains in Takoradi. Has this made things pretty awful for the refugees?

[Ashay] That was my concern. In fact, these rains, the rains caught me on the way. So, when I got here, we (?tried) to contact our office, our officers there to inquire if indeed, the rains affected the camp. And the answer is no. Nothing went wrong in the camp. It was very heavy, but the camp is not affected.

[Harper] I understand that the aid agencies were expecting rather more refugees than actually came off the boat. The numbers were lower than what you thought.

[Ashay] Oh yes, we were expecting, because we heard that there were between 3,600 to 6,000 people on that boat. And when we did the screening as they came down the ship, of course, the numbers were by far less than that. There were some 2,000 people and not 3,600 as initially reported.

[Harper] We have also heard reports that apart from people being on board this ship, there were rather a lot of refrigerators, television sets, and other things that were actually looted by these people when they left Monrovia. Have you seen any of these goods? Do you know what is happening to them?

[Ashay] No, I have not seen the goods personally, but I also heard as you did. It might be true and I think what should be done now is that the UN is requesting all governments in the region to look into these goods if indeed there are to get out the UN property and maybe arrangements would be made later on for them to be returned to UNOMIL [UN Observer Mission in Liberia], Monrovia. As you know, the UN system, UNOMIL — all the UN agencies are looted (?of all their equipment). Computers, refrigerators, vehicles were looted and if these are on board this ship or any other ship, I think it will be deemed appropriate that they are retrieved and returned to the UN. [end recording]

Guinea

Guinea: Ship Carrying 700 Refugees From Liberia Arrives in Conakry

AB1605172396 Paris AFP in English
1640 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Conakry, May 16 (AFP) — A Greek ship arrived Thursday [16 May] off the coast of Guinea from Monrovia carrying 713 refugees from the fighting in Liberia, nearly half of them children, Guinean officials said.

An AFP correspondent watched as the International Committee of the Red Cross distributed food and water to the exhausted refugees, whose journey lasted several days.

The refugees, most of them Guineans, are to disembark Friday morning in Conakry after formalities are completed, officials said.

Liberia

Liberia: 'Fierce' Fighting Resumes Around 'Camp Schieffelin'

AB1605190796 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 16 May 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program hosted by Chris Bickerton]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Bickerton] In spite of hopes of a cease-fire between rival factions in Liberia, more fighting has broken out today around the strategic military barracks to the east of Monrovia. Jonathan Peyley has just faxed the latest details from the Liberian capital. Here is his report:

Fierce fighting has broken out again around the Camp Schieffelin military barracks, 40 miles southeast of Monrovia between the combined forces of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Kromah] militias on the one side and the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] and the LPC [Liberian Peace Council] on the other. According to civilians fleeing into the capital, the latest fighting broke out when NPFL and ULIMO-K militiamen attempted to overrun the barracks which is held by the AFL and the LPC. The fighting is now raging on several fronts and is particularly heavy at the Boys Town township just outside the Schieffelin barracks. Fighting is also going on along the highway leading to the coastal town of Marshall.

As fighting rages in those places, AFL and LPC fighters, who broke out of an encirclement by NPFL and ULIMO-K troops two days ago, have been attempting to launch an attack on the Paynesville suburb of eastern Monrovia. Troops of the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], returning from the Schieffelin area, confirmed that there was heavy fighting around the barracks. They said both sides are engaged in exchanges of heavy artillery fire. An NPFL general said his men and ULIMO-K forces were in a serious battle with the AFL and LPC forces in the Schieffelin area. He said his forces had surrounded the Schieffelin barracks but had not broken into it.

Meanwhile, reports from Monrovia port, west of the city center, say troops of the Nigerian contingent of ECOMOG opened fire on NPFL and ULIMO-K militiamen, killing at least two persons, including one NPFL fighter. Initial reports suggest that the militiamen may have got too close to the port which is protected by ECOMOG troops. The ECOMOG chief of staff said he had launched an investigation into the incident.

[Bickerton] Jonathan Peleyle just faxed that report from Monrovia.

Liberia: Council of State Agrees to Peace Summit Recommendations

AB1705104896 Paris AFP in English
1020 GMT 17 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, May 17 (AFP) — Liberia's council of state will shortly implement recommendations made earlier this month by regional foreign ministers to end factional strife in Monrovia, a local radio station reported Friday [17 May].

The council of state, which includes Charles Taylor and Alhaji Kromah, leaders of two allied factions, agreed all parties to the fighting in Monrovia were to adhere strictly to a nationwide ceasefire demanded by the chairman of the Economic Community of West African States, Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, according to the report on Kiss FM, a radio station owned by Taylor.

The state council has also ratified the immediate withdrawal of all armed groups from Monrovia and the simultaneous citywide deployment of the African peace-keeping force, ECOMOG.

ECOMOG and the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) is further to verify the removal of all arms and ammunition from the capital, and Monrovia's reinstatement as a safe haven.

However, the report made no mention of the ministers' recommendation at a meeting in the Ghanaian capital Accra that "General" Roosevelt Johnson — the ethnic Krahn faction leader whose April 6 attempted arrest ignited the clashes — should be reinstated as rural development minister.

Johnson was sacked from the post after his reported ouster as faction leader in March.

The council of state also said it would revitalise plans for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of some 60,000 factional fighters across the country, as outlined in a peace accord signed in Nigeria last August by all faction leaders involved in Liberia's civil war.

Meanwhile, although Monrovia itself was calm early Friday, Kiss FM reported "government forces" — a term

Taylor applies to fighters loyal to him and to Kromah — had besieged a barracks housing the Krahn-dominated Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) at Schiefflin, around 17 kilometers (11 miles) east of the capital on a key access route into the city. [passage omitted]

Mali

Mali: Minister Meets Western Saharan Minister

AB1405100596 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 2000 GMT 13 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Minister of State Dioncounda Traore has received Mohamed Ould Salek, the Western Saharan minister of state at the presidency. He is here to brief the Malian authorities on the situation prevailing in Western Sahara. He discussed the upcoming withdrawal of the UN observer mission in the country, and the increased risk of confrontation in the zone. All these things he said, are a subject of concern to the Western Saharan authorities. Here are details with Mohamed Ould Salek talking to our correspondent Mallam Adamou:

[Begin Salek recording] The United Nations planned to hold a referendum on self-determination in Western Sahara as a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and Morocco. You are aware of the fact that this referendum could not be organized because of the disagreement between my country and Morocco on the number of voters. You know that under the peace plan for Western Sahara, voters qualified to vote are those registered by the Spanish authorities in 1974. Unfortunately, the other side, Morocco, later contested this decision. It decided to include Moroccan citizens who had nothing to do with Western Sahara so Western Saharan authorities refused to comply with the arrangement.

The United Nations is now planning the partial withdrawal of its mission from Western Sahara, and I believe that after so many efforts made by the United Nations and the OAU in Western Sahara, we are closer to war than to peace. This is a reality today and as far as we are concerned, we have made a lot of concessions to achieve peace. We accepted the presence of some Moroccan troops. We accepted the presence of Moroccan colonists and of the Moroccan administration during the referendum.

A new and very serious situation is now developing in the subregion. Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Algeria, as well as all countries of the subregion, all African countries, are concerned. You know that Mali played an important role within the OAU and the United Nations in favor of peace in Western Sahara, not only because

it is a country in the subregion, but because Mali has always had an external policy of promoting peace in Africa. It has always been an advocate of cooperation, the right of people to attain sovereignty, and the respect of the intangibility of borders inherited from colonial times. [end recording]

Niger

Niger: Mainassara Urges Voters To Approve Draft Constitution

AB1105163596 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 2150 GMT 10 May 96

[Address by Niger's Head of State Colonel Ibrahim Barre Mainassara in Niamey on 10 May — live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Nigerois, my fellow compatriots: The campaign on the 12 May referendum on the Constitution will come to an end in a little under two hours from now. In that respect, I urged you, during my 23 April address on the launching of the campaign on the referendum, to opt for a new society built on a constitution whose basis was laid by the national forum for democratic renewal. The new society I am talking about should be a united one, where harmony prevails and where the people are determined to take charge of their destiny. In order to achieve that, there must be efficient political institutions and legal instruments. Indeed, political stability requires efficient action by the government and our people's control of their own destiny.

The draft constitution which will usher in the Fourth Republic will assuredly enable us to meet those fundamental requirements. Indeed, our people need to be reassured and made to feel secure in the face of the turbulence of all the politicking over democracy. Our people need to enjoy the rights and freedoms universally accorded to all human beings. Following so much uncertainty linked to political instability, which itself resulted from misconstrued democracy, the violation of the spirit of laws, a multiparty system marked by conflicts, and the underlying selfishness of leaders of the Republic, our people finally have a right to self-fulfillment. In this respect, the draft constitution of the Fourth Republic will provide for a presidential system of government [words indistinct] alleviate [words indistinct] from which we have greatly suffered. The draft constitution is deeply rooted in our values of civilization and is capable of guaranteeing the proper functioning of state institutions, while allowing citizens to fully exercise their freedoms and fundamental rights.

On behalf of the National Salvation Council and the government, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the awareness campaign teams which have just toured the

country to convey the message of stability, harmony, and peace to our hardworking populations, the message which is imbibed in the draft constitution of the Fourth Republic. We also wish to thank the parliamentarians of the last legislative term, who through their effective presence and constructive contribution to the campaign on the referendum amply demonstrated that the country's political forces were truly involved in this operation of national interest. Is there need to recall that this operation was the result of a long process which was meant to unite the people as is eloquently confirmed by the participation of all the political and socioprofessional classes to the deliberations of the coordinating committee of the preparatory meeting on the national forum and the national forum itself?

Furthermore, by opting for the presidential system of government, the sole concern of the national forum participants was to finally chart a course that will enable us to channel the contributions of all the sons and daughters of this country into a democratic ideal that will shield us from partisan squabbles and enable each citizen to add his contribution toward the building of the nation. This is why I hereby reiterate my call on all Nigerois to vote yes in large numbers for the draft constitution of the Fourth Republic, the only true guarantee for stability and development for Niger.

By voting yes on 12 May, you will turn a page in our history and usher in a new era of peace and progress, harmony and unity among all Nigerois. By voting yes, Niger will take its place among the comity of democratic nations. Let us, therefore, vote massively in favor of the constitution for a Niger which will henceforth rank among winning nations. Let us move forward toward democratic renewal so that Niger may live long in stability and renewed harmony.

Nigeria

Nigeria: Authorities Reject Proposed Visit by Irish Deputies

AB1605221196 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 16 May 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Nigerian authorities have said no to a proposed visit by parliamentarians from the Irish Republic. Among those intending to go on a seven-day fact-finding mission were three members of the Parliamentary Joint Committee for Foreign Affairs. They wanted to meet a wide range of people, including Head of State General Abacha and human rights and pro-democracy groups. It comes at a time, when Nigeria is becoming increasingly isolated with international

sanctions being imposed by the UN over the country's human rights record and its failure to speed up the democratic process. Well, facilitating the Irish visit was the Catholic Agency for World Development (Troker). On the line to Dublin, Mary Harper asked (Annette Honan) of (Troker) if any reason had been given by the Nigerians for blocking the proposed visit?

[[Honan]] They haven't and, in fact, we have inquired on a number of occasions as to ways that we might be able to facilitate them allowing us to enter. We have provided them with all the information, with the names of people we would like meet on the ground, but we found it very difficult really to get answer as to why they would not us in, and it still posed some serious questions about the Nigerian Government's claim they are open to receiving visitors and that they have nothing to conceal, because they have claimed that the international press has misrepresented them and that the true story has not been told, and so when we try to go to hear the story, it is so disappointing that they won't let us in.

[Harper] So, what exactly were the parliamentarians planning to do? Were you planning to meet people who the Nigerian Government doesn't particularly want you to meet? Was that the problem?

[[Honan]] No, we had put together a very wide ranging and comprehensive range of activities which included spending time, meeting with government officials in Abuja. We also planned to visit Lagos, where we would certainly meet with members of human rights groups and pro-democracy groups, and the opposition. We had requested to meet with some of the political detainees, because we are very concerned about conditions in which a number of people are being kept, particularly the fact that many are in jail without trial, without access to medical attention or legal attention either and we had also asked permission to visit Port Harcourt, the heart of the oil producing area to meet both with representatives of Shell and also other environmentalists and community groups on the ground.

[Harper] But, possibly the Nigerian Government thinks you are just going there to stir up a bit of trouble?

[[Honan]] Indeed, they are fearful, and they have unfortunately backed themselves into a decision now, where they have cut themselves off from dialogue with the international community. We feel that that is not very helpful. Indeed, we were offering them an opportunity, particularly in light of our [words indistinct] in the presidency of the EU [European Union] that they might be able to reopen dialogue with the international community, and it seems very unfortunate that they would not avail of that opportunity.

[Harper] And what is the Irish Government going to do in response to the blocking of this visit? Are they going to embark on some serious talks with the Nigerian Government to try to convince them to change their mind? What are they going to do?

[[Honan]] Well this morning, the minister who is responsible for our overseas development, Mrs. (John-Buxton), did speak on this already, when she just heard the news, and she said this has had serious implications, especially in light of the fact that the sanctions that were imposed six months are now coming up for review and that it leaves Ireland with little option but to push for stronger sanctions now.

[Harper] Do you think that the Nigerian Government has decided to block the visit of Irish parliamentarians, because Ireland is not exactly the most prominent Western nation?

[[Honan]] No, I do not think it would have mattered very much whether we were a prominent nation or a small nation as we are, but in fact Ireland is quite an important country in relation to Nigeria, because we have such a strong economic, and cultural, and missionary links over the years, so I think it wasn't a question of its being insignificant. I think it is more a question, perhaps, that the Nigerian Government, at this time, did not judge that it was appropriate for us to come in and start asking uncomfortable questions. [end recording]

Nigeria: Nairobi To Host Nonaligned Meeting

EA1605221696 *Nairobi KNA in English*
1522 GMT 16 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Lagos, 16 May (PANA-KNA) — Nigeria will host the meeting of the non-aligned countries' Intergovernmental Council for Coordination of Information and Communication from 27th May, the Information Ministry said in Lagos Thursday [16 May]. It said in a statement that representatives of 42 of the over 100 nonaligned nations, elected on a regional basis at the 12th council meeting in Pyongyang, North Korea, are expected to attend the meeting in Abuja, the Nigerian capital. [passage omitted]

The Information Ministry said the Abuja meeting would afford participants "the opportunity of seeing Nigeria at first hand with the aim of forging their opinion, as well as provide easy access to the nation's cultural heritage, including tourist attractions." "It will also provide a platform to promote the huge investment and business. [sentence as received]

**Nigeria: Information Minister Announces
Nonaligned Meeting**

AB1605222596 *Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 2100 GMT 16 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The minister of information and culture, Dr. Walter Ofonagoro, has spoken on the need for member nations of the Nonaligned Movement to cooperate in the field of information dissemination to correct the imbalance in the present world information order. Dr. Ofonagoro made the call in Lagos at a meeting to brief ambassadors and high commissioners of member countries of the movement on arrangements

for the 19th meeting of the Intergovernmental Council scheduled for Abuja. [passage omitted]

The meeting of the Intergovernmental Council for Coordination of Information and Communication of Nonaligned Countries is to take place from the 27 to 30 of this month in Abuja. The venue is the International Conference Center.

A statement from the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture says delegates from 42 countries and seven international organizations will participate.

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